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RECOVERY ACT FUNDS SUPPORT INNOVATIVE N.C. ENERGY PROJECTS

RALEIGH – Eighteen innovative North Carolina projects, 17 using solar technology and one using landfill gas, will receive a total of about \$2.3 million in federal Recovery Act funds to implement energy conservation projects that invest in energy technology, Gov. Bev Perdue announced today.

“These projects build our state’s green energy economy, create jobs and demonstrate how public and private partnerships can work to help our communities,” said Perdue.

The 18 projects represent \$26.3 million in total costs and will generate 31.8 million kWh of electricity annually (enough for 2,610 average homes for a year) or 2.6 billion BTUs (enough to provide hot water to 287 average homes for a year), depending on the specific project. Funding for additional projects is still under review and will be announced later.

Money for the grants is distributed by the North Carolina Energy Office, part of the state’s Department of Commerce, through the State Energy Program fund through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The following are details of the projects receiving funding:

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education, Mecklenburg County -- \$24,719 for a 20 panel solar thermal system to be installed at the J.V. Washam Elementary School in Cornelius. The solar thermal system will provide the cafeteria and school facilities with 1,000 gallons of hot water per day. The solar heating system includes solar panels, pumps, tanks, controls, wiring, piping, and insulation. A web-based monitoring service will provide access to energy production data on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. Total cost of the project is \$123,595, and it will generate 204,000,000 BTU annually.